

REMARKS

In this Amendment, claims 1-4, 15, 18, 19, and 28, are cancelled without prejudice, claims 5, 8, 9, 13, 16, 20, 26, 29, and 31-35 are amended, new claims 36-45 are added, and the claim rejections are addressed. Cancellations of and amendments to the claims are being made solely to expedite prosecution of the present application and do not constitute an acquiescence to any of the Examiner's rejections. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found throughout the application. The option to further prosecute the same or similar claims in the present or a subsequent application is expressly reserved. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 5-14, 16, 17, 20-27, 29-45 are pending in the present application.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to in the Summary portion of the Office Action, but the objections were not identified in the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner identify the objections to the drawings or remove the objections from the record in a subsequent Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner's indication that claims 5-7, 12, 14, 16, 17, 20-27, 29, 30, and 33-35 include allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-4, 8-11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 28, and 31-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bray.

Claims 1-30 and 32-35

Claims 1-4, 15, 18, 19, 28, and 31 have been cancelled without prejudice, thereby mooted the Examiner's rejections of those claims.

Claims 5, 16, 20, and 29 are re-written in independent form, which claims were considered by the Examiner to be allowable. Independent claims 5, 16, 20, and 29 are therefore allowable. Since independent claims 5, 16, 20, and 29 are allowable, claims 6-14, 17, 21-27, and 30 depending therefrom are also allowable.

Claim 33 is amended to remove the "bus" feature, but otherwise re-written in independent form, and claim 34 is amended to depend from claim 33 and include the "bus" feature. Independent claim 33 is believed to be allowable based on the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in originally filed claim 33. Since independent claim 33 is allowable, claims 32, 34, and 35 depending therefrom are also allowable.

Claim 31

In contrast to independent claim 31, Bray discloses a packet manager that includes an integrated buffer manager and a service priority manager, but does not disclose any modularity of its components. Independent claim 31 is therefore not taught or suggested by Bray.

New Claims

New claims 36-45 are asserted to distinguish from Bray. New claims 36, 42, and 44 are independent, and new claims 37-41, 43, and 45 depend from new claims 36, 42, and 44. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the present application.


New claims 36-45 are believed to be allowable over Bray at least because Bray does not disclose sampling data transmissions to generate an index that includes both destinations and origins in the sampled data transmissions and determining transmission priorities for two or more of the data transmissions based on such an index.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all of the claims of the present application are believed to be patentable over the art cited in the rejections. Reconsideration of the rejections and timely allowance are respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if any additional information is required or if an interview can expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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